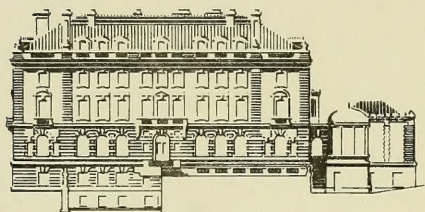


Cooper-Hewitt Museum Library



Smithsonian Institution Libraries

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Cooper Union for the Advancement of
Science and Art. New York. Museum
for the Arts of Decoration,

THE COOPER UNION MUSEUM
FOR THE ARTS OF DECORATION

*A BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO
THE MUSEUM'S FACILITIES*

COOPER SQUARE AND SEVENTH STREET
NEW YORK

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LIBRARY OF THE
COOPER-HEWITT MUSEUM OF DESIGN
• SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION •

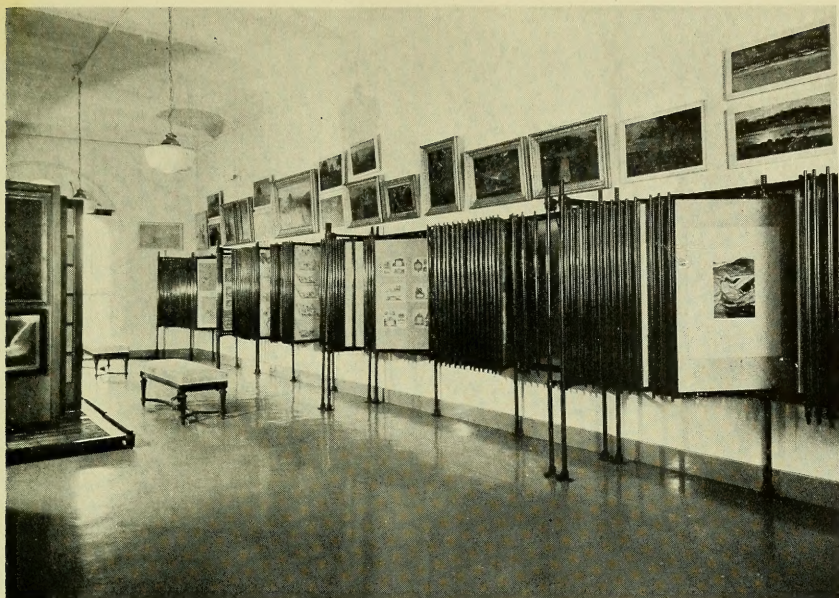
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of Science and Art, New York,
Museum for the Arts of
Decoration.

A brief
introduction
to the
museum
facilities.



GALLERY OF DRAWINGS BY AMERICAN ARTISTS

Established primarily to aid the designer, the artisan, and the student of the decorative arts, the Museum has assembled collections of remarkable richness and diversity, which appeal as well to the more general interests of a wider public. Its treasures, many of which are not duplicated in public collections elsewhere in the United States, are compactly arranged in convenient display groupings, supplemented by readily available study material. In addition to the expected objects of decorative design, there is a representation of drawings and paintings, with emphasis on French work of the eighteenth century, and American of the nineteenth, and a comprehensive collection of engravings and etchings ranging in date from the fifteenth to the twentieth centuries.

Besides actual objects of art, the Museum offers a valuable source of information in its library facilities. There are three libraries: one devoted to books of reference published mainly during the past century; another containing older and rarer books of fine and applied arts; as well as the richest collection of designs by





STAGE DESIGNS DISPLAYED IN SWINGING FRAMES

French *ornemanistes* to be found in this country; and the third library a collection of nearly a half-million photographs and illustrations, classified and mounted in encyclopaedic scrap-books.

In operation the Museum aims to present its material with directness and informality, realizing that its comparative smallness of area is a fortunate contribution to economy of time and effort. The visitor has immediate access to the collections, and can have material assembled in advance of his visit, if it be desired, merely by requesting this service. The staff, familiar with the collections and with the types of information that are in demand, is prepared to assist with problems of design and decoration.

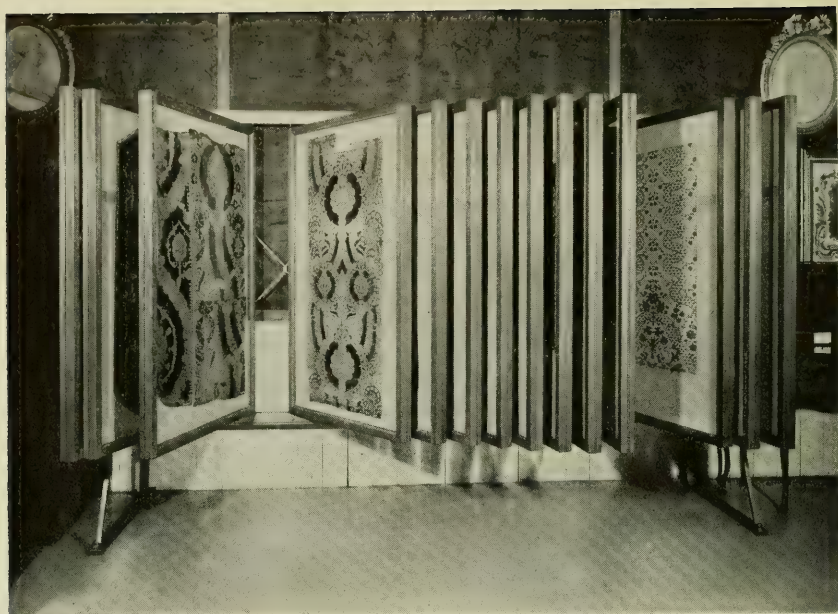
The accompanying photographs show some of the facilities that the Museum offers. For those who are unfamiliar with the collections, a list of their most important categories is given:

AMERICAN ARTISTS' WORK: Drawings, paintings and prints by Alexander, Beckwith, Blum, Chase, Church, Cox, Durand, Hassam, Homer, Huntington, Moran, Sully, Trumbull, West and others



THE ENCYCLOPAEDIC PICTURE REFERENCE LIBRARY

- ARCHITECTURAL DECORATION:** Examples of painted architectural enrichment, carved stone and wood details
- BIRD CAGES:** The Alexander Wilson Drake Collection of one hundred oriental, European and American examples
- BUTTONS:** More than five thousand items, civil and military, covering a wide range of materials and of present and past styles
- COSTUME ACCESSORIES:** A rich collection, largely of Western origin, with some oriental material; newly-received group of infants' wear
- DECORATIVE PAINTING:** Documentary material from Italy and France, Renaissance to Third Republic
- DESIGNS:** Original designs for architecture, ceramics, embroidery, furniture, hardware, lighting, jewelry, porcelain, silversmith's work, stage decoration, textiles, and other subjects by celebrated artists of today and the past
- DRAWINGS:** By Americans, as listed above, and by such European artists as Boucher, Oudry, Le Prince, Robert, Tiepolo, Watteau, and others only slightly less illustrious
- EMBROIDERY:** European and oriental secular and ecclesiastical embroidery; analytical study cards demonstrating the resources of the art
- ENGRAVING AND ETCHING:** Prints by the Masters, from Mantegna to Picasso. Four thousand engraved portraits of Americans; ornament prints; topographic prints



SOME OF THE LARGER EXAMPLES OF HAND-LOOM FABRICS

FLOWERS: Flower prints; illustrated books of botany and horticulture; garden design

FURNITURE: Type pieces of European and American origin. Large range of variations in chair design

GLASS: Vessels of blown and pressed glass. Stained and painted glass windows, including work by La Farge

JAPANESE SWORD MOUNTINGS: The George Cameron Stone Collection of sword furnishings, of full range of type and period

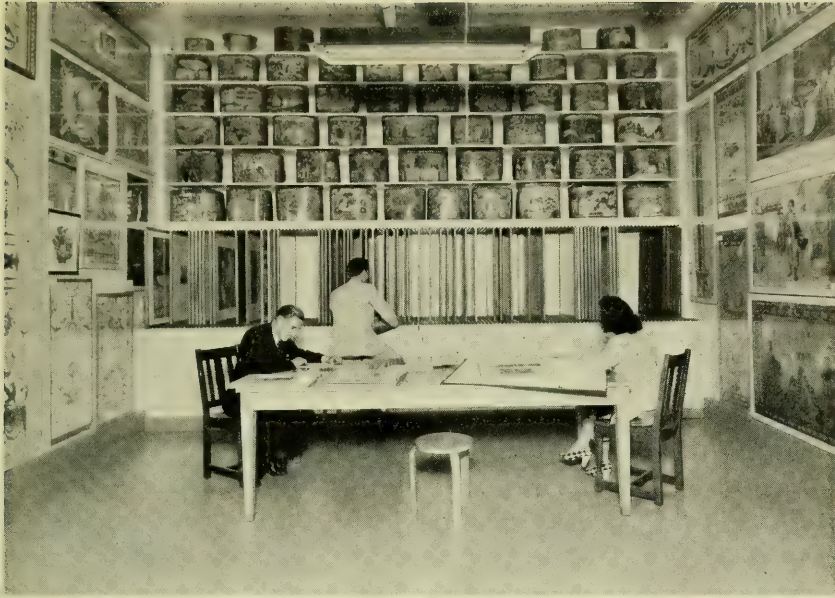
JEWELRY: Large loan collection of European jewelry of the nineteenth century

LACE: Display collection of first quality, supplemented by study cards and diagrammatic charts of techniques

METALWORK: European wrought iron, American cast iron, in gates, railings, windows and brackets; silversmith's work

PORCELAIN AND POTTERY: Ceramic wares from Chinese and European sources, including rare early examples

STRAW-WORK: Boxes and cases covered with marquetry designs of colored straw, representing one of many crafts of the past which offer suggestions to the designer of the present



WALL-PAPER ALCOVE

TEXTILES: One of the most distinguished collections in the country, reaching from 1500 B.C. to current production; hand-loom fabrics; painted silks; printed cottons, including early American examples; collection of materials illustrating textile design and production

TILES: Spanish, Dutch and English tiles, and a remarkable room of Delft tiles of the seventeenth century; pottery stoves and braziers

TOLE: Vessels and other objects of painted metal

TOYS AND GAMES: Puppets, including shadow puppets from the Théâtre Seraphin; dolls, miniature objects; playing cards; the *giuoco di luce*

WALL-PAPER AND BANDBOXES: Large and comprehensive collection of French, English and American papers, and valuable assortment of American paper-covered handboxes

WOODWORK: Carved panels and architectural details of the eighteenth century in France; details of cabinet-work

To all designers and students this announcement is directed, reminding them that the Museum has given service for over forty years, and with enlarged collections is now a more useful tool than ever. Frequent exhibitions of special themes are a further source of ideas and inspiration.

THE COOPER UNION MUSEUM

HOURS

October Through April

Weekdays except Saturday, 9 A.M. to 10 P.M.

Saturdays 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.

May Through September

Weekdays 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Closed Saturdays during July and August

Telephone: ALgonquin 4-6300

LINES OF TRANSPORTATION

SECOND AVENUE ELEVATED 8th Street (St. Mark's Place) Station

THIRD AVENUE ELEVATED 9th Street Station

B.-M. T. SUBWAY Broadway-Seventh Avenue Line — 8th Street Station

I. R. T. SUBWAY Lexington-Fourth Avenue Line — Astor Place Station

INDEPENDENT SUBWAY West 4th Street — Washington Square Station

HUDSON-MANHATTAN TUBES 9th Street Station

FIFTH AVENUE BUS Wanamaker Terminal, Route 5

BROADWAY BUS LEXINGTON AVENUE BUS, Route 4

MADISON-FOURTH AVENUE BUS Routes 1 and 2

EIGHTH-NINTH STREET CROSSTOWN BUS

Christopher Street Ferry Route, 13; Seventh Avenue Route, 9

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION LIBRARIES



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A brief introduction to the museum's fa